State/UT	District Forums set up
D and N Haveli	1
Daman and Diu	2
Delhi	9
Lakshadweep	1
Pondicherry	1

Export of wheat to Iraq

955. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq has evinced keen interest in resumption of wheat purchases from India;

(b) if so, whether India has upgraded the grading and testing facilities at ports of dispatch to confirm to Iraqi standards; and

(c) whether the wheat export lobby has complained of inadequate allotment of rakes for wheat movements in view of the on-going pre-occupation of Railways for movement of grains to drought hit areas within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such facilities have been set up by the Food Corporation of India.

(c) Exporting Public Sector Undertakings and exporters have drawn attention to the shortage of railway rakes for movement of grains for export.

Reviewing of Sarvapriya Scheme

956. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of the Sarvapriya Scheme (SPS) for distribution of certain commodities at fair prices, launched by the National Consumers Cooperative Federation of India, has been reviewed, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of commodities being distributed through the SPS and the offtake by the States, State-wise;

(c) the difficulties, if any, faced by the States in implementing the Scheme and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to resolve them; and

(d) the details of the plans drawn up to enlarge the scope of the SPS and the mechanism established, if any, to dove-tail the SPS and the PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. The Hon'ble Union Minister CAFPD has however written a D.O. letter on 26.12.2002 addressed to the Chief Ministers of States and the Lt. Governors of Union Territories requesting them to avail of the Scheme.

(b) Under the Scheme as announced in July, 2000, altogether 11 items namely Arhar Dal, Gram Dal, Masoor Dal, Urad Whole, Salt, Tea, Toilet Soap, Detergent cake, exercise notebooks, edible oil and toothpaste were identified to be distributed to the consumers through the existing PDS retail outlets and the retail outlets of the State Consumer Cooperative Federations, State Civil Supplies Corporations and the Consumer Cooperative Societies functioning in the State. The Scheme is voluntary and involves no subsidy. The State-wise details of the offtake of the commodities lifted during the financial year 2001-2002 and the period April-November, 2002 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) According to the NCCF, the reasons for the Scheme not picking up are:—

(i) States have their own Schemes for supply of essential commodities;

(ii) Reluctance on the part of the State agencies/State Govts. to involve their funds;

(iii) Fair price shops are not showing interest in the lifting of the stocks due to shrinkage in the clientele on reduction in the number of card holders eligible for drawal of sugar and food grains.

(d) The NCCF has agreed to include more items of common use to the 11 items mentioned, provided the State Govt./State agencies agree to place order for adequate volume. The State Governments have been requested to dove-tail their own schemes and utilize the facilities provided under the Scheme, wherever possible.

Statement

State-wise details of the offtake commodities lifted during the financial year 2001-2002 and the period April-November, 2002

			During 2001-2002		April 2002 to Nov., 2002	
Sl. No.	**Name of the State/UT**	**Commodity**	**Quantity**	**Value (Rs. in lakhs)**	**Quantity**	**Value (Rs. in lakhs)**
1.	Rajasthan	Salt	1149.87 MTs.	22.66	703.950 MTs	13.86
		Tea	47148 Kg.	44.59	18054 Kg.	17.29
		Ex. Note Books	341995 pcs.	21.66		
		Pulses	80 Kg.	0.02		
		Toilet Soap	1109 pcs.	0.05		
		Blankets	878 pcs.	0.74		
		Total:		**89.72**		**31.15**
2.	Himachal Pradesh	Toilet Soap	1276296 pcs.	39.57	268800 Pcs.	8.12
		Salt	5.00 MTs.	0.12		
		Tea	250 Kgs.	0.23		
		Total:		**39.92**		**8.12**
3.	Maharashtra	Salt	1304.573 Mts.	58.51	685030 MTs.	17.83
		Tea	226.075 MTs.	133.50	-	-
		Toilet Soap	69888 Pcs.	2.17	23520 Pcs.	0.73
		Det. cake.	72360 Pcs.	1.59	-	-
		Total:		**195.77**		**18.56**
4.	Tripura	Toilet Soap	1200 cases.	9.36		
		Det. cake	600 cases.	1.80		
		Mustard Oil	15,000 Ltr.	5.79		
		Tooth Paste	1200 cases	28.68		
		Ex. Note books	600 dozen.	0.55		
		Total:		**46.48**		
5.	A and N Islands	Toilet Soap	2520 Pcs.	0.09		
		Pulses	2000 Kgs.	0.55		
		Total:		0.64		
		Grand Total:		**372.23**		**57.83**